Docket No.: 61352-046 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277

Yasuo TAKEBE, et al. : Confirmation Number:

Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:

Filed: October 30, 2003 : Examiner: Unknown

For: METHOD OF OPERATING FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND FUEL CELL SYSTEM

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Mail Stop CPD Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 119, Applicants hereby claim the priority of:

Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-317794, filed October 31, 2002

cited in the Declaration of the present application. A certified copy will be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 30, 2003